


University of Illinois,
Library School.

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*Some Information about
the Coventry Public
Libraries.*

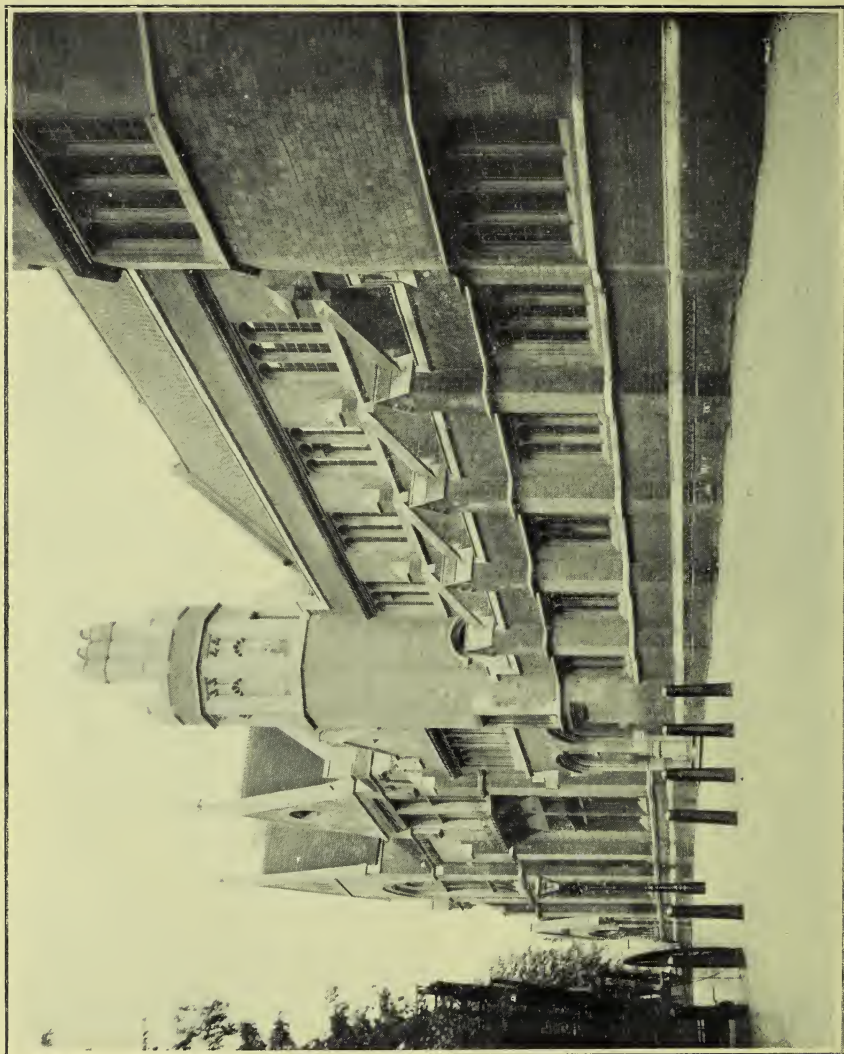
1920.

When you have looked through
this please pass it on to a friend



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THE GULSON (CENTRAL) LIBRARY.

Coventry, Eng. — Public Libraries

Some Information about the Coventry Public Libraries.

1920.

*All that Mankind has done,
thought, gained or been: it
is lying as in magic preser-
vation in the pages of Books.
They are the chosen possession
of men.*

Carlyle.

When you have looked through this please pass
it on to a friend.

Points to Remember about the Libraries.

REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Ready-Reference Books.—Encyclopædias, atlases, year-books, indexes, bibliographies, catalogues, handbooks, guides to books, dictionaries of archæology, architecture, the Bible, religion, Christian antiquities, classical antiquities, languages, literature, chronology, biography, agriculture, games, geography, history, quotations, art, mythology—indeed all kinds of books in which a subject is succinctly treated, or facts are brought together for reference, or terms are clearly and briefly explained—books, in a word, which are “keys” to other books—are brought together in the Reference Library, where readers may consult them without formality.

Reference Books not on Open Shelves.—Although ready-reference books are on open shelves, the bulk of the Reference Library is in parts of the library to which the public are not admitted in the ordinary way. This reserved part of the Reference Library comprises the History and Topography Division in the north bays; the Art, Education and Philosophy divisions in the south bays; the Literature division in the north gallery; and the Religion and Sociology divisions in the south gallery.

Coventry and Warwickshire Books.—Although these books are stored in upper rooms of the Gulson Library, readers may inspect them at any time when the Home Reading Library is open. All the books are carefully and minutely classified by place and subject. This department contains information on nearly every town and village in Warwickshire. Gifts for local collection are always welcomed.

The Education, or Teachers and Parents' Collection comprises not only books on pedagogy, but on psychology, ethics, child welfare, and also selected books for children and historical fiction, which parents and teachers may choose for children's reading.

Directories and Guides to Towns and Pleasure Resorts are also to be found in the Reference Library. There is no other place in the City where so many guides may be seen.

An Illustration Collection, comprising coloured and plain illustrations of art objects, historical, biographical and literary subjects, will be found useful by teachers and others.

The Gulson Bequest Library is a collection of about 1300 choice books in general literature. The books can be used on the same conditions as other books in the Reference Library.

READING ROOMS.

Periodicals.—The leading London and provincial daily papers, weekly journals, and monthly and quarterly magazines and reviews are taken at the libraries. The list of those received at the Gulson Library is very long, and includes many scientific and technical periodicals. Some of them are



GULSON REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Contains a Public Collection of about 3,000 volumes of ready-reference books; a Teachers' and Parents' collection; a Patents' collection; and a File of Pamphlets, Articles, Clippings, among other departments. The Gulson Bequest Library is on both sides of the portrait.



COVENTRY AND WARWICKSHIRE ROOM, GULSON LIBRARY.

This Collection contains 2,500 volumes and 2,551 pamphlets, besides a large number of prints. It is believed to be the largest collection of Warwickshire literature in the county. Included in it are special sections on Mysteries and Miracle Plays, and on George Eliot.

filed and bound for permanent reference. Many others are filed for a time before being removed from the library. All back numbers which are filed may be obtained for reference.

HOME READING LIBRARIES.

Joining the Home Reading Libraries.—No charge is made for joining the Libraries. A form of application for membership may be obtained at any Library. If the applicant is not a householder, he must obtain the signature of a householder as a guarantee; if he is a householder the application may be filled in without a guarantor's signature.

Extra Tickets.—On the ordinary ticket any book in the Home Reading Libraries may be borrowed. But a reader, if he wishes to do so, may obtain two extra tickets, on which only non-fiction books are issued. This privilege is much appreciated by students.

Access to Books.—At all the Libraries the readers have access to the books on the shelves. The only part reserved is the general reference collection at the Gulson Library.

Subject Index.—This is the key to the Libraries. It indexes subjects of books, names of people written about, and names of the authors in literature and belles lettres. This index serves for all Libraries. A copy, in two large volumes, one red and one brown, is at each Library.

Renewing Books.—Books as a rule are issued for a fortnight, but loans may be renewed (1) by delivering a book to be re-dated; (2) by sending to the Library from which a book was borrowed, its issue number, and the latest date on the issue label; (3) by telephoning to 305 (all Libraries).



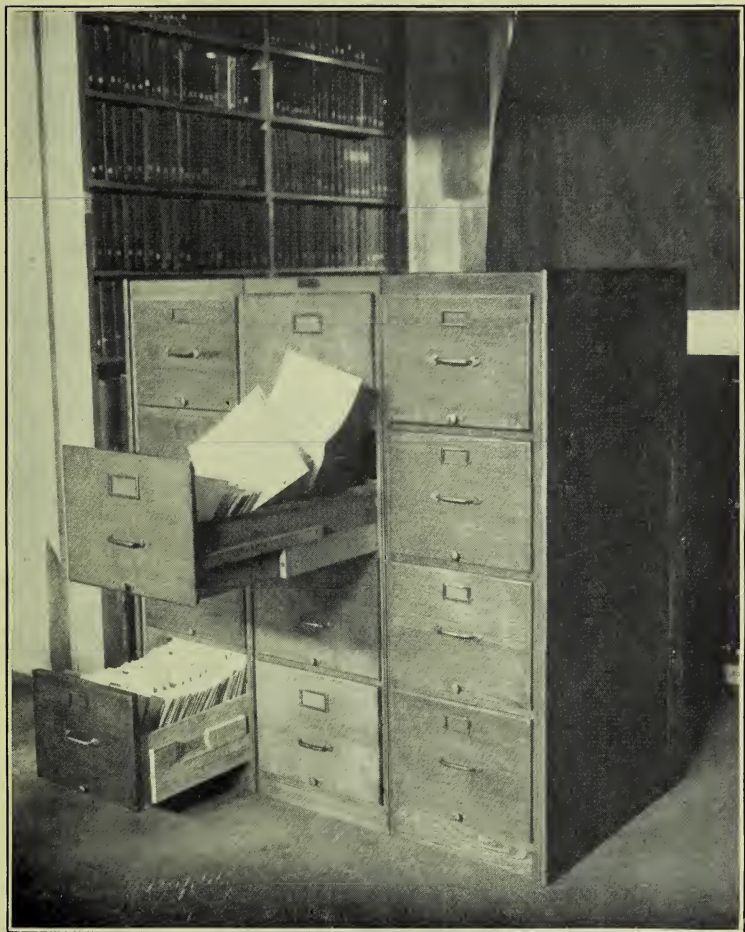
LIBRARIES IN THE CITY.

Research Issues.—Readers requiring books for purposes of research may retain books for three weeks; but they must obtain permission to do so on every occasion when they borrow books for this purpose.

Holiday-Issues.—During the holiday months, readers who leave their holiday addresses and give notice that they will be absent, may retain their books for four weeks without liability to fine.

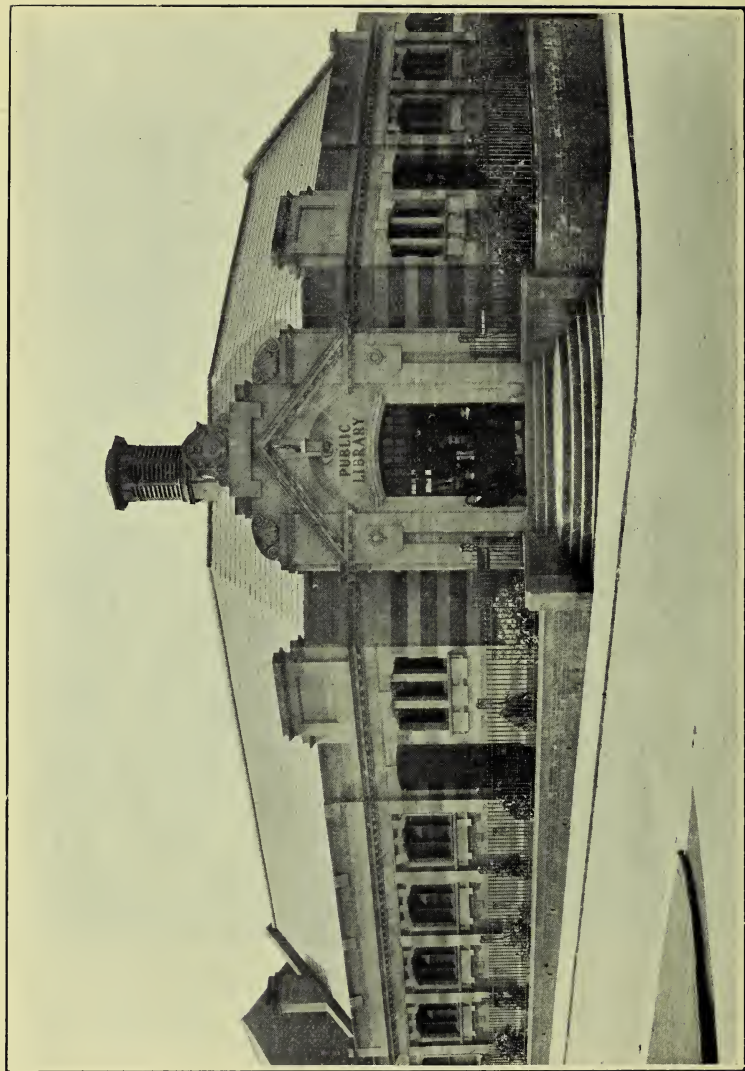
Fiction.—Although a small stock of modern fiction is kept at each Library—the total is only 6,624 out of a total of 82,245 items, or only 8'5 per cent. of the stock—the Libraries are primarily for people in training for a career, or for those of a studious disposition, or with literary tastes, or in search of information. It is an educational institution for people of all ages above 10, and of all classes.

Telephoning.—Readers can make enquiries and renew books by telephone (No. 305) A telephone is provided at each Branch Library for readers to enquire for books which are in the Gulson or any other Library in the service. No charge is made for the use of these telephones, and permission to use them is not necessary. Readers living near a Branch Library can ring up the Gulson Library for information, or for books, without delay or formality.



PART OF INFORMATION FILE, GULSON LIBRARY.

This is a part of File of Articles, Pamphlets, Clippings, Maps and other loose pieces. These items are minutely classified. As much of the information is recent in date, this File is a most useful supplement to text books and treatises.



STOKE BRANCH LIBRARY.

At the corner of Walsgrave Road and Kingsway. It contains some 6,300 volumes in the Home Reading Library, and 174 volumes in the Reference section.



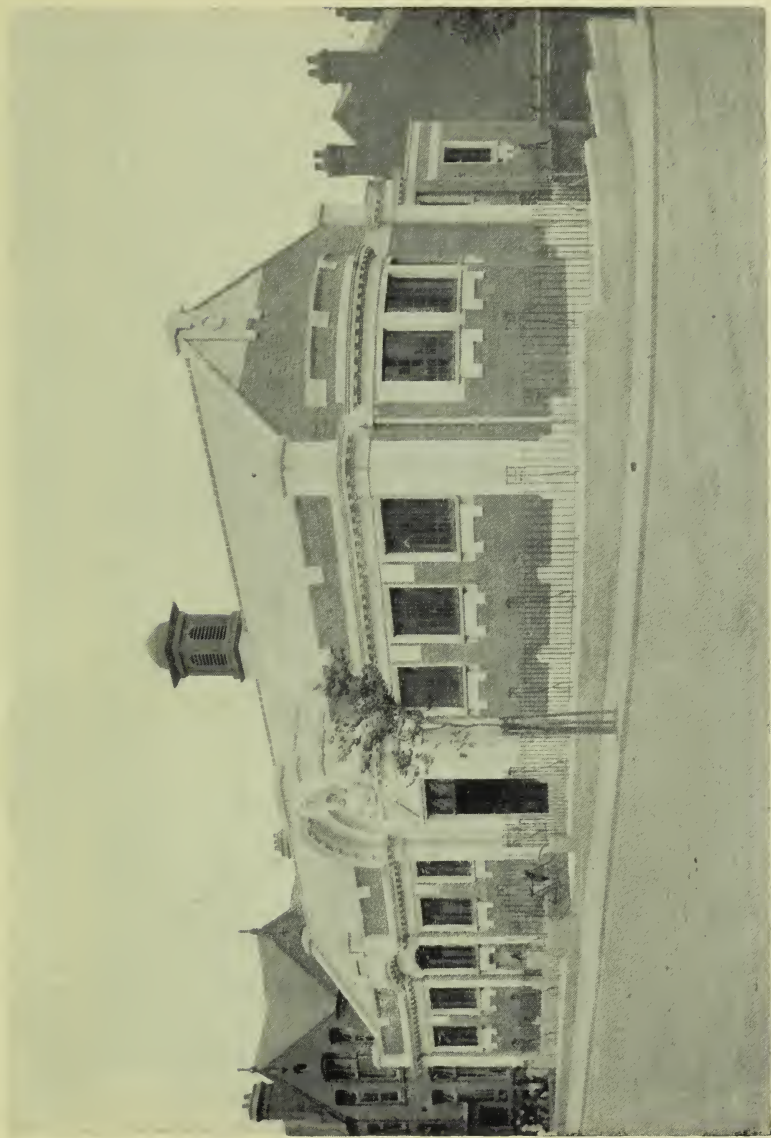
HOME READING LIBRARY, STOKES.

It is arranged on the open shelf system so that readers may choose their books. All the books are minutely classified by subject. Note the plan of room above the small table.



JUNIOR LIBRARY, STOKES.

The Junior rooms at Earlsdon and Foleshill are similar. These Libraries are so popular that it is necessary to ration the reading of the children. If readers have any children's books to spare, they should give them to help on the excellent work of these rooms.



EARLSDON BRANCH LIBRARY.

At the corner of Earlsdon Avenue and Albany Road. It contains some 7,500 volumes in the Home Reading Library, and 258 volumes in the Reference Library.



HOME READING LIBRARY, EARLSDON.

It is arranged on the open shelf system, as at Stoke. The telephone for readers' use in making enquiries of the
Gulson Library is seen on the counter on the left hand side.



FOLESHILL BRANCH LIBRARY.

In Broad Street, opposite the Council School. It contains some 6,300 volumes in the Home Reading Library, and 130 volumes in the Reference section.

HOURS OF OPENING :

CENTRAL (GULSON) LIBRARY :

Reference Library : 10 a.m.—9.30 p.m., every week-day.

Home Reading Library : 10 a.m.—8.30 p.m., every week-day, except Thursdays, when this department closes at 1 p.m.

Public Newsroom (entrance opposite Cathedral) :
8.30 a.m.—9.30 p.m., every week-day.

BRANCH LIBRARIES at EARLSDON, STOKE and FOLESHILL :

Home Reading and Junior Libraries : On Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, from 1.30—5 p.m. and 6—8.30 p.m.; on Wednesdays from 10 a.m.—1 p.m.; and on Saturdays from 10 a.m.—12 noon, from 1.30—5 p.m., and from 6—8.30 p.m.

Public Newsrooms : From 8.30 a.m.—9.30 p.m. every week-day.





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